

HB 1273 -- CIRCUIT COURT FEES

SPONSOR: English

This bill specifies that each circuit court clerk must charge and collect an electronic citation fee of \$5 in order to assist in paying the costs associated with establishing and maintaining electronic citations. An electronic citation means the process of transmitting traffic, misdemeanor, municipal ordinance, conservation, or other citations and law enforcement data via electronic means to a circuit court clerk.

The fee must be paid by the defendant in any traffic, misdemeanor, municipal ordinance, conservation, or other citations issued upon a plea of guilty, judgment of guilty, or grant of supervision. The fee must be in addition to all other fees authorized by law and assessable as costs.

The bill creates the Circuit Court Clerk Electronic Citation Fund to be administered by the Department of Public Safety. Sixty percent of the fees collected must be deposited into the fund and used to perform the duties required by county circuit court clerk offices for establishing and maintaining electronic citations. Forty percent of the fees must be disbursed to the arresting agency to reimburse for expenses related to the establishment and maintenance of electronic citations.

The county circuit clerk must not charge and collect an electronic citation fee in the event the county commission elects to be exempt from these provisions.